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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCESSING  
GROUP ART UNIT: 1746

Attorney Docket :  
033082M072

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of: )

**Koji Egashira, et al.** )

Application No.: 09/801,106 )

Examiner: PERRIN, Joseph L.

Filing Date: 02/28/2001 )

Art Unit: 1746

For: LIQUID PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

A response to the Office Action dated December 17, 2004 was due March 17, 2005. A Petition for Extension of Time (one month, large entity) is enclosed, extending the date to April 18, 2005 (April 17, 2005 being a Saturday). Therefore, please accept this Amendment as timely filed.

For the purpose of placing the above-captioned application in immediate condition for allowance, or alternatively, in better form for appeal, Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

In response to the Office Action dated December 17, 2004, kindly amend the above-identified patent application as follows.